

# Guide to Buying Recycled Content Paper

## *It's easier than you think!*



### **Pledge to Buy Recycled Content Paper for Maine Recycles Week 2002!**

As part of Maine Recycles Week (MRW) 2002, the Steering Committee invites Maine businesses and municipalities to pledge their commitment to buying paper made from a minimum of 30% post consumer fiber. If you represent a Maine municipality or business and are willing to make a commitment to buying 30% post consumer content paper or greater, please fill out the pledge on page 2 and mail it to the MRW 2002 Steering Committee at the address provided. Pledges may also be faxed to the MRW Steering Committee at 207-287-6489 or completed online at [www.recyclemaine.com](http://www.recyclemaine.com).

***If your business or municipality already uses 30% post-consumer paper, please fill out a pledge and let us know.***

### **Why should I buy recycled paper?**

Buying recycled content products is a key part of the recycling loop. When we "buy recycled," we help to create healthy markets for the materials that we work so hard to recycle. As a result, buying recycled products is sometimes referred to as "closing the loop." When we incorporate the purchase of recycled products into everyday shopping habits, we communicate to our children, to manufacturers, to retailers, and to elected officials that we want to play an active role in helping to ensure a positive future for our families, our communities, and our planet. Paper is a good product to start with because it is a product that all offices and households use and recycled content paper is widely available.



### **How do I get started?**

#### ***Municipalities & Schools***

Municipalities and schools can take advantage of competitive prices by purchasing recycled paper (and many other recycled products) through the State of Maine's purchasing contract. To purchase 30% post-consumer recycled paper through the Division of Purchases, call the State of Maine's Central Warehouse at 287-3641. Maine Municipal Association also offers cooperative purchasing to municipalities through Office Depot, which carries recycled paper. Call MMA at 623-8428 or visit their web site at [www.memun.org](http://www.memun.org) for more information.

#### ***Businesses***

Businesses should start by talking to their current supplier(s) to find out what they offer for recycled content products. If your current supplier(s) does not offer recycled products, you can contact one of dozens of companies that do. (*To get started, please see the enclosed list of recycled content paper sources.*) Be sure to look closely at product specifications and try more than one product until you find the one that you like best. See page 3 for basic information on common terms and myths about buying recycled. If your business would like information on obtaining any other recycled content products, contact the State Planning Office at 1-800-662-4545.

*printed on recycled paper*



# *Maine Recycles Week 2002 Pledge to Buy Recycled Content Paper*



\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Name of Municipality or Business)*

hereby pledges to adopt and implement a recycled content office paper purchasing policy within our next fiscal year, beginning \_\_\_\_\_.

This policy will require the purchase of office paper and letterhead with a minimum of 30% post-consumer recycled content.

By enacting this policy, our company/municipality is demonstrating our commitment to the future of recycling in the State of Maine.

☐ We already purchase recycled content paper with a minimum of \_\_\_\_\_ % recycled content.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Authorized Representative*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Printed Name*

*Mailing Address:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:** MRW Steering Committee, c/o Rhonda Cartlidge, 38 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0038

**Fax to:** Rhonda Cartlidge, 207-287-6489

**OR, fill out a pledge online at:** [www.recyclemaine.com](http://www.recyclemaine.com)

*printed on recycled paper*

# The “Buy Recycled” Vocabulary

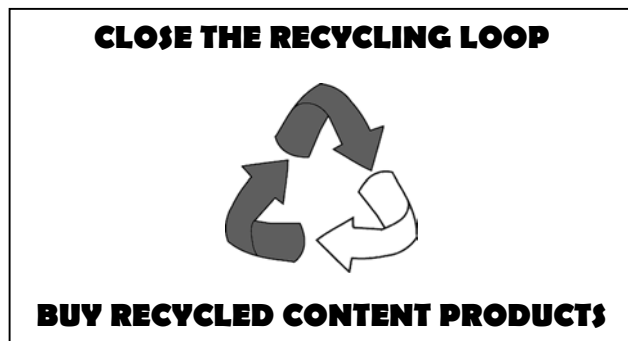
## Post-consumer vs. Pre-consumer

**Post-consumer** materials include any items that have been used by consumers or businesses and collected for recycling.

**Pre-consumer** materials include "waste" items generated during manufacturing, such as paper trimmings at paper mills, which almost always end up being recycled anyway.



By choosing products with the highest percentage of **post-consumer** materials, we support our local recycling collection programs.



## Recycled vs. Recyclable

These terms can be confusing. A *recycled* product is one made from recycled material; whereas a *recyclable* product is one that can be recycled after it has reached the end of its useful life. While it is important to look for both recycled and recyclable products, buying a "recyclable" product only has meaning if you can, and will, actually recycle it in your community.

## Common Myths About Buying Recycled

### **Recycled content products are hard to find.**

A wide variety of products, from office and school supplies to home goods, are made from or packaged in recycled materials AND can be found where you normally shop. Look for the recycling symbol and the word “post-consumer.”

### **Recycled content products cost more.**

Many recycled content products are priced competitively with their non-recycled counterparts. While some recycled content products may be more expensive, prices will drop as demand increases. Businesses and municipalities may also be able to take advantage of cooperative purchasing opportunities.

### **Recycled content products are low quality.**

**FALSE!** Recycled content products enjoy the same quality, reliability, and dependability as non-recycled products. The State of Maine uses recycled content paper in all of its nearly 700 photocopiers without any performance problems.

*printed on recycled paper*

## 30% Post Consumer Recycled Content Paper Sources\*

◆ = special Maine Recycles Week promotion

(Companies listed in alphabetical order)

### Boise Cascade Office Products

125 Industrial Way  
Portland, ME 04104  
Phone: (800) 472-6473  
Website: [www.boiseoffice.com](http://www.boiseoffice.com)  
*Offers 1,513 recycled content products;  
recycled content varies.*

### Domtar Industries, Inc.

144 Main St.  
Baileyville, ME 04694  
Phone: 207-427-4066  
Fax 207-427-4013  
Website: [www.domtar.com](http://www.domtar.com)  
*Domtar Recycled Copy (30 percent post-consumer waste) is the environmental choice for everyday copying and printing on laser and ink jet printers. Domtar Recycled Copy offers the same performance and quality appearance as virgin Domtar Copy paper.*

### Greg Barber Company

330 East 65th Street  
New York, NY 10021  
Phone: 516-413-9207  
E-Mail: [greg@gregbarberco.com](mailto:greg@gregbarberco.com)  
Website: [www.gregbarberco.com](http://www.gregbarberco.com)  
*A complete line of environmental paper and printing services*

◆ **Mention Maine Recycles Week when ordering and receive a free kit (pad of 100% Post-Consumer/1005 processed Chlorine Free paper)**

### GreenLine Paper Company

631 S. Pine Street  
York, PA 17403  
Phone: 800-641-1117  
Fax: (717) 846-3806  
E-Mail: [steveb@greenlinepaper.com](mailto:steveb@greenlinepaper.com)  
Website: [www.greenlinepaper.com](http://www.greenlinepaper.com)  
*National catalog, specializes in recycled content office supplies*

### Recycled Office Products

#### Local Rep.

Joyce Schelling  
44 Grove St.  
Bangor, ME 04401  
Phone: 207-262-5585  
Website: [www.recycledofficeproducts.com](http://www.recycledofficeproducts.com)  
*A full line of office products including 100% post-consumer copy paper, writing pads, and tablets, register tape, and more.*

◆ **Place an order during Maine Recycles Week and receive 5% off your total order.**

### Three Mountain Papers, LLC

PO Box 1507  
Blue Hill, ME 04614  
1-866-THREE-MT  
Phone: 207-374-3625  
Fax 207-374-2765  
E-Mail: [threemountain@hypernet.com](mailto:threemountain@hypernet.com)  
Website: [www.threemountainpapers.com](http://www.threemountainpapers.com)  
*Tree free and 100% post consumer bond, writing and cover stock, with matching envelopes, journals, notebooks, address books, stationery*

\*This list should be used only as a reference. It should be noted that the listing of these companies is not intended to be conclusive, nor is it an endorsement of any of the companies listed. If you know of additional companies to add to this list, please call (207) 287-9074.

*printed on recycled paper*

